



HR0403

LRB099 12019 GRL 34593 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1982, Congress designated June 6-12 as the
3 first National Child Abuse Prevention Week; the following year,
4 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed April to be the first
5 National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a tradition that
6 continues to this day; and

7 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a major social problem
8 in Illinois, annually affecting 30,000 children in more than
9 17,000 families statewide; according to the Children's
10 Bureau's Child Maltreatment 2013 Report, an estimated 1,520
11 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in the United
12 States in 2013; and

13 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 100,000 cases of
14 abuse go unreported each year; the impact of abuse on children
15 manifests itself in many ways; the affected children may
16 experience a range of emotional, psychological, and physical
17 problems and trauma as a result of being abused or neglected;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, There are various organizations and agencies that
20 devote their full-hearted efforts to combating this vicious
21 problem and seek to provide these at-risk children with options
22 that help prevent and relieve afflicted children from the

1 hardship that is child neglect and abuse; and

2 WHEREAS, Organizations like the Children's Advocacy
3 Centers of Illinois, Children's Home + Aid, and Prevent Child
4 Abuse America have provided children and families the
5 opportunity of healing the wounds left from the harmful results
6 of child neglect and abuse; and

7 WHEREAS, Established in 1995, the Children's Advocacy
8 Centers of Illinois is a network that coordinates and provides
9 a comprehensive response to child abuse in Illinois through 37
10 locations in the State, working closely with the Department of
11 Children and Family Services and the Illinois Attorney
12 General's Office; and

13 WHEREAS, Children's Home + Aid has regional offices in
14 Bloomington, Rockford, Chicago, and Granite City; the
15 organization is a leading child and family service agency in
16 Illinois; each year, it protects, educates, and counsels more
17 than 40,000 children, youth, and families to overcome the
18 overwhelming obstacles of poverty, abuse, and neglect; and

19 WHEREAS, Founded in Chicago in 1972, Prevent Child Abuse
20 America works to ensure the healthy development of children
21 nationwide; the organization promotes this mission through a
22 network of chapters in 50 states and nearly 600 Healthy

1 Families America home visiting sites in 39 states, the District
2 of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Commonwealth of
3 the Marianas, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands,
4 and Canada; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois State law requires that Mandated
6 Reporters, including most professionals in education, health
7 care, law enforcement and social work, report suspected neglect
8 or abuse; and

9 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and concerned
10 individuals continue to try and raise awareness for and
11 education in emotional child abuse in the community and among
12 parents so as to produce a pro-active solution to the problem
13 of child abuse and neglect; and

14 WHEREAS, The National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a
15 time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities
16 working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to
17 promote the social and emotional well-being of children and
18 families; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
21 designate the month of April in 2015 and 2016 as Child Abuse
22 Prevention Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we encourage communities throughout the
2 State to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness
3 strategies and promote prevention across the State of Illinois.